

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (original): A preform for a composite material, comprising layers of laminated structure composed of reinforcing material formed of reinforcement fiber and a layer provided, between the layers, which is made of thermoplastic resin and has spaces so that flow of liquid resin to be injected for molding the composite material is uninhibited.

Claim 2 (original): A preform for a composite material, according to claim 1, wherein the layer, which is made of thermoplastic resin and has space so that flow of liquid resin to be injected for molding composite material is uninhibited, is a fabric formed of thermoplastic resin fiber thread.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A preform for a composite material, according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the layer which is made of thermoplastic resin and has space so that flow of liquid resin to be injected for molding composite material is uninhibited, has a weight per square meter of 1 to 50 g/m².

Claim 4 (original): A preform for a composite material, comprising layers of laminated structure composed of reinforcing material formed of reinforcement fiber, wherein thermoplastic resin threads are adhered or woven approximately parallel to each other on a surface of the reinforcing material.

Claim 5 (original): A preform for a composite material according to claim 4, the thermoplastic resin disposed or woven to a surface of the reinforcing material has a weight per square meter of 1 to 50 g/m².

Claim 6 (currently amended): A preform for a composite material, according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein the reinforcing material formed of reinforcement fiber is a woven fabric.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A preform for a composite material, according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic resin is one selected from the group of polyamides and polyimides.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A fiber-reinforced composite material formed by molding the preform for a composite material according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1.

Claim 9 (new): A preform for a composite material, according to claim 2, wherein the layer which is made of thermoplastic resin and has space so that flow of liquid resin to be injected for molding composite material is uninhibited, has a weight per square meter of 1 to 50 g/m².

Claim 10 (New): A preform for a composite material, according to claim 4, wherein the reinforcing material formed of reinforcement fiber is a woven fabric.

Claim 11 (new): A preform for a composite material, according to claim 4, wherein the thermoplastic resin is one selected from the group of polyamides and polyimides.

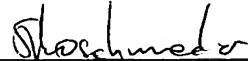
Claim 12 (new): A fiber-reinforced composite material formed by molding the preform for a composite material according to claim 4.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-12 are active in the present application. The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 9-12 are new claims. Support for the new claims is found in the original claims. No new matter is added. An action on the merits and allowance of claims is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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